

STATE OF WASHINGTON

Technical Division

POLLUTION CONTROL COMMISSION

218 Bagley Hall - University of Washington

Seattle 5, Washington

Mon C. Wallgren  
Governor

June 29, 1945

Jack Taylor  
Director

MEMORANDUM NUMBER 2

CONCERNING THE DISPOSAL OF THE EFFLUENT FROM THE  
WESTERN GAS COMPANY OF BREMERTON, WASHINGTON

by Nathan Fasten

Time of Conferences: Tuesday, June 26, 1945, 3:00 to 4:30 P.M.,  
4:30 to 5:15 P.M.

Place of Conferences: I. Office of Prosecuting Attorney Cohen of  
Bremerton, Washington.

II. Office of Mr. E. H. Cookingham, Manager,  
Western Gas Company.

Present at Conferences: I. Mr. Jack Taylor, Director, Pollution Con-  
trol Commission  
Mr. Cohen, Prosecuting Attorney for Kitsap Co.  
Dr. Nathan Fasten, Chief Biologist, Pollution  
Control Commission

II. Mr. Taylor, Dr. Fasten, Mr. E. H. Cook-  
ingham.

I.

The purpose of the conference was to consider the pollution of  
Port Washington Narrows by the effluents from the Western Gas Company  
plant at Bremerton, Washington. Mr. Cohen had brought legal action to  
prevent the gas company from discharging its raw, unfiltered effluents

USEPA SF



1359982

Memorandum No. 2

Concerning the Disposal of the Effluent from the  
Western Gas Company of Bremerton, Washington

- 2 -

into the waters of the Narrows. Following this, before the case came up for trial, Mr. E. H. Cookingham, Manager of the Western Gas Company, and Prosecuting Attorney, Mr. Cohen, drew up an agreement to rectify the situation and to follow the recommendations of Professor S. R. Tymstra of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Washington. Professor Tymstra looked over the plant of the Western Gas Company and recommended the installation of sumps and filters which he believed would reduce the phenol, tar, and oil in the circulating liquor to the extent where it would have no deleterious effect on the marine life when discharged into the waters of the Narrows. The Pollution Control Commission seemed to concur in Professor Tymstra's opinion. Both Mr. Cookingham and Mr. Cohen signed the agreement and agreed that by July 8, or a reasonable time thereafter, the changes indicated by Professor Tymstra be installed. Mr. Cohen promised to send copies of the agreement to the Pollution Control Commission. Also, he promised to send photographs showing the effects of the present effluent on the shores, boats, and other materials along the Narrows.

Following this conference, Director Taylor and Dr. Fasten visited the plant of the Western Gas Company of Bremerton, Washington and found that they had already constructed one sump and were in the process of developing an adequate sand filter.

Memorandum No. 2  
Concerning the Disposal of the Effluent from the  
Western Gas Company of Bremerton, Washington

- 3 -

## II.

After viewing the Western Gas Company plant, Director Taylor and Dr. Fasten called on Mr. Cookingham and received his assurance of cooperating in every possible way to control the pollution which enters the Narrows. It was indicated also that at some later date when the installation is working, representatives of the Pollution Control Commission, probably Mr. Harrison W. Kramer, Consulting Engineer, and Dr. Fasten, Chief Biologist, will again visit the Western Gas Company plant for the purpose of inspecting the new installations and obtaining samples of the filter effluents for examination.